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DATE: June 4, 2001

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04 June 2001

Ms. Chris Rodriguez
United States Patent Office, Art Unit 3763

RE: Applic. Serial No.: 08/988,292
Filed: 10 December 1997

Dear Ms. Rodriguez:

Please find proposed amendments to the two independent claims that are pending in this case. I believe that these proposed amendments clearly distinguish our claims over the newly cited prior art of Lerner, USPN 2,922,425 and Kellett, USPN 5,261,426.

Sincerely,

Owen Bates
Reg. No. 40,346